REGION III NASES MEETING

April 30, 2012

TJ’s – Norfolk

Region III NASES met April 30, 2012 with the following present: Frank Hebenstreit, Norfolk Public Schools; Ruth Miller, ESU #8, and Jason Harris, Columbus Public Schools.

Discussion was held on the difficulty in getting IDEA payments on the GMS system. When requesting assistance from NDE, there appears to be conflicting answers. It was noted that all bills next year will need to be hourly, not daily. A problem occurring is the approved rate is last year’s final rate instead of the current rate. Another problem appears to be the length of time between sending in and receiving approval of a payment. Jason will take the issues and suggestions to Stuart Clark to address with NDE.

Early childhood and service location on the SRS system was clarified. Any child below age 6 has to have an early childhood service location selection. When the child reaches 6 years of age, the IEP will need to be duped to change the service location to Public School. A “Discontinuation” form is only used when a student no longer qualifies for Special Education or the parent wishes services to be discontinued. The “Change of Placement “ form is used when a student moves to another district, changes programs, or graduates from high school.

After discussion, it was suggested that the Region III NASES group meet monthly and coincide with the monthly SPED Director’s calls. Future meetings will be the last working day of the month, except December, July and August. NDE representatives will be invited to attend one meeting, possibly a date when there is no SPED Director call. Ruth Miller will look into the Lifelong Learning Center at Northeast Community College for future meetings. More info will be reported at the May Region III NASES meeting.

Columbus and Norfolk are having difficulty locating Speech/Language Pathologists. Columbus is using a Speech Tech and Norfolk is looking at a Language Resource Teacher that will service language students, not artic students. Frank Hebenstreit reported that he conducted a survey of 15 districts for speech/language pathologist to student enrollment. The lowest was 1/150 with Norfolk being 1/744. There were three districts with 1/630. Ruth Miller reported that teletherapy was a possibility and ESU #8 had used that in the past and it worked okay for nonpublic students. It is important to ask parent permission before implementing that program.

Jason Harris will be sending out an e-mail to ask if anyone is interested in being the Region III Representative for next year. If no one wants the position, he would be willing to be the rep. If someone else is interested, the group will vote at the May meeting.

The next Region III NASES meeting is scheduled for May 31, 9:00 a.m. at T.J.’s in Norfolk. This will be a SPED Director’s conference call.

Jean Bierschenk,

Secretary